

**NOTICE TO THE TRADE
MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTING LABORATORIES**

This Notice is issued by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), to allow commercial laboratories to become eligible to conduct microbiological tests and provide the results of analyses on frozen cooked diced chicken destined for delivery to USDA. Attached are the general requirements that must be met if laboratories desire to be considered under this program.

Laboratories interested in seeking approval that will allow them to be listed as eligible to conduct microbiological testing of frozen cooked diced chicken should contact AMS and request an application for this program. The completed application should be returned to AMS in accordance with the instructions on page one of the application. Once the application has been approved, then the laboratory will have to successfully complete an onsite capability assessment. For instances whereby the completed application is approved and the laboratory has already cleared an AMS onsite capability assessment, then those laboratories will only be required to submit a copy of their onsite assessment report to AMS Poultry Programs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION,
CONTACT: David Bowden, Jr., Chief, Standards, Promotion, and Technology Branch, Poultry Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0256, Washington, DC 20250-0256. Voice: (202) 690-3148, Email: david.bowden@usda.gov.
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